

April 19, 1973

right now as minor amendments and you indicated that he has the right to come before us and ask for this type of amendment. I, personally, see nothing wrong with this motion. I would suggest, for example, that we do this. This is the only way we are going to be sure of getting his amendments on his bill, because, after all, 259 is his bill and we must give it to him, as I see it, in the form that he wants it. For example, we can't put these four amendments in the Capitol Improvements budget. We can't put them in the Deficiency Appropriations bill. We cannot put them in the Reappropriations Bill. I just see no other place to put them except this particular one unless we wanted to process an entirely new bill. And for that reason, I would suggest that we do it on this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer, did you wish to be recognized on this motion? All right. Senator Cavanaugh and then Senator Carpenter. Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, I wonder if Senator Marvel would yield to a few questions?

PRESIDENT: Senator Marvel, will you yield to a question, some questions?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: I'll try and make them reason.

SENATOR MARVEL: Yes sir.

PRESIDENT: OK. Thank you.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Senator Marvel, I would very much like to understand your position on this whole matter of 259 as Chairman of the Budget Committee. Is it your feeling that this is the best possible budget that we can offer the state of Nebraska to operate for the next year?

SENATOR MARVEL: Under the existing circumstances that have occurred the last few days, yes sir. In other words, excuse me, I intend to vote for 259, if we get the opportunity this morning.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: On the bases of the fact that it is, in its present form, the best possible budget that we can provide to operate the state of Nebraska.

SENATOR MARVEL: Under the existing circumstances that have occurred the last few days, and that have occurred since this Budget Committee has met which include the impact of the federal government and the withholding or potential withholding of federal funds, so that, and I have stated this on the floor of the Legislature many times. Any budget bill that we pass this session can only be considered temporary depending upon what the federal government does. We can be called back into special session any particular time and we can, also, consider items in January. One of the functions of an annual session is to keep closer track of the budget items than we have before and this is exactly what we are doing.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Well, as chairman of the Budget Committee, I feel you have a great responsibility in the area of the budget and in the area of educating this Legislature as to desirability of the budget in toto and in its separate portions. Now what I would like you to finally do here is to express that judgment to this body that this is the best possible budget that we could arrive at and that if you had drafted this budget, this is the way you would have drafted it and this is what you think is the best way to operate the state of Nebraska...